In Loving Memory of

Louis Henry Preston

Sunrise
March 19, 1937

Sunset
February 22, 2011

Funeral Service

11:00 A.M.
Friday, March 4, 2011
Mount Calvary Baptist Church
1735 Enterprise Drive
Fairfield, California 94533

Rev. Melvin Williams—Officiating

Obituary

Louie (Louis) Henry Preston was born to the late Hudie and Gracie Preston on March 19, 1937 in Camden, Arkansas. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his son Brian Del Preston, his brother Lawrence Preston and a brother who was stillborn.

He remained in Camden until his family relocated to Independence, Kansas in the mid 1940's where he continued his formal education. He accepted Christ while in his early teens and became a charter member of Galilee Baptist Church in Independence, Kansas. During his early school years, he became very active in sports and excelled in basketball, his favorite activity. He graduated from High School and Junior College in his home town and continued his education at Pittsburg (Kansas) State University where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1960.

Louis started his professional career as a Social Worker in Leavenworth, Kansas in l961 where he remained until he moved his family to San Rafael, California in l964. While there, he was hired as the first African American Social Worker to be employed by the Marin County Department of Social Services. He left after five years to return to graduate school, at the University of California, Berkeley where he received a Masters Degree in Social Work in 1971. He then worked briefly as Director of Big Brothers of America at their Oakland branch office where the emphasis was upon implementing the program concept in the African American community. The program was well received throughout the East Bay.

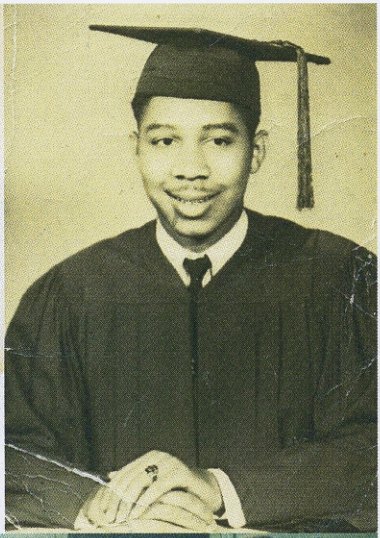
Louis started employment with the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency in l972, where he had a very distinguished 25 year career. His career included numerous promotions and special recognitions, including the Agency recommending Louis to receive the annual Public Managerial Excellence Award in 1992 from the City and County of San Francisco. He retired from the Agency in l997.

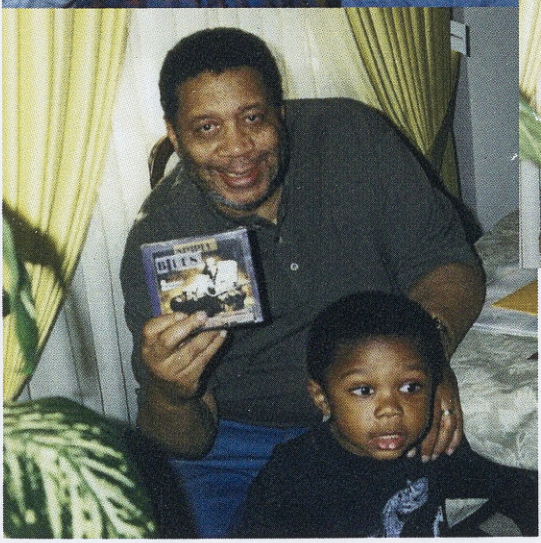
Louis joined the Church By The Side Of The Road in Berkeley, California in 1974 and later moved his membership to St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Richmond, where he was an active member for over 14 years. In 2006, Louis joined Mount Calvary Baptist Church, with the Rev. Dr. Claybon Lea, Jr., serving as pastor. He remained there as a member until his passing.

Louis leaves to cherish his memory. his loving and devoted wife Ruby, of fifty years; his precious daughter Stephanie Preston-White (Ralph) of California; grandsons Darius Louis White and Adam Brian White, his pride and joy; a brother Johnie (Barbara) of Washington; two wonderful nieces Gracie Preston of Washington and Nadine Jones of Kansas; a nephew Lawrence Preston Jr. of Georgia; six sisters-in-law: Nettie Washington of Georgia; Maxine (Leroy) Huffman of Alabama; Shirley White of Alabama; Debra Bickley of Alabama; Linda Bickley of Alabama and Linda Davis of Kansas as well as ten brothers-in-law: Howard Bickley, Jr., of Alabama; James Bickley of Alabama; Ralph Bickley of Alabama; Perry (Virginia) Bickley of Alabama; William (Doris) Turner of Kansas; Richard Davis of Kansas; Louis "Fuzzy" Davis of Kansas; Terry Davis of Kansas; Timothy Davis of Kansas; and Ronnie (Donna) Davis of Kansas; Cousins Mamie R. Brown of California; Billie Allen of California; and an especially dear cousin Lessie Roddy of Arkansas. Louis also leaves remembering his life and legacy a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Thank you for taking me to the movies, thank you for taking me to my Cub Scouts, thank you for helping me with my homework, thank you for watching me swim, play basketball and baseball.





The best Pa-Pa in the World!

Thank you for all the cool presents and mostly, thank you for being our Pa-Pa!

Love, Darius and Adam

Order of Service

Rev. Melvin Williams–Officiating
Rev. Jasper Lee–Officiating

Processional . . . . . Family

Old Testament . . . . . .Percy Langston
Psalms 23:1-8

Solo . . . . . Rev. Melvin Williams
"I Won't Complain"

Prayer . . . . . .Rev. Jasper Lee

Solo . . . . . .Sister Willa Gaye Williams
"May the Work I've Done Speak for Me"

Acknowledgements & Condolences.Mount Calvary Baptist

Expressions . . . . . Two Minutes Please

Words of Comfort . . . . . .Rev. Melvin Williams

Recessional

Interment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park
4100 Hilltop Drive
Richmond, California 94803

Pallbearers

Donald Casimere
Deacon Bobby Johnson
Dwight Smith
Deacon Robert Dixon
Percy Langston
Deacon John Baker

Honorary Pallbearers

Cecil Carter
Deacon Elijah Cable
Dr. Fay Bradley
Joe Holbert
Rev. Paul Preston
Richard "Dick" Kono

I was here only for a little time but oh, what a time it was. Now I have gone on to my Heavenly Home and I am at peace. But, just remember that I shall always be with you in spirit. So please don't weep for me; for we shall all be together again someday. What a time we will have. It's okay to be sad for a little while, but life goes on and don't forget that if you need me, I am as close as your heart.

Acknowledgement

The family of Louis Henry Preston wishes to thank each of you for all acts of kindness shown to them in their time of sorrow. May God bless you and keep you in His loving care.

Wilson & Kratzer Mortuaries
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